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AGRICULTURAL.

SECOND REPORT OF THE AGRICULTURE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BY REV. HENRY COLMAN.

(Continued.)

PRODUCE AND EXPENSES.

1. *Egremont.*—I will in this place state as an example, the operation of a farmer who resided about twentyfive miles from Hudson. The great object of his attention was the making of butter, which was sold every week in the New York market.

From 18 cows he sold 2400 lbs. butter, at 23 cts. net. With these cows he fed 17 spring pigs until October, whose average weight was 177 lbs. each; half of this pork, say 88 lbs. was to be credited to the cow. He is of opinion that when pork is $10 per 100 lbs., a cow will give at least $8 worth of pork per year.

Cow, Cr.	
133 lbs. butter, at 23c. (commission paid,)	$30 59
Pork	8 00
	$38 59

Cow, Dr.		
Wintering	$12 00	
Pasturing	5 00	
Salt	25	
Interest on $25, 10 per cent. risks included	2 50	
		$19 75
Profits of a cow		$18 84

It is understood that no extra feed is in this case given to the cow; and the butter and milk used in the family, it is supposed will fully pay for the attendance. This is a fair profit; but it is, as I think we shall presently see, much less than it should be. No animal is better entitled to good keeping than a cow; because none makes a more liberal return for all the extra kindness and feed and attention bestowed on her.

In another dairy, nine cows made 1550 lbs. of butter and 300 lbs. of cheese.

Another dairy of twenty cows produced,—of butter 500 lbs.; of new milk cheese, 4000 lbs.

In this town, two acres of land are deemed sufficient for pasturing a cow or fatting a steer. Twenty head of cattle, made up of cows and three year old steers, were fatted upon thirty acres of land.

The subject of dairy produce is of such importance that I shall give various returns and calculations. I omit names; I should be glad to give them, and in a majority of cases it might not be disapproved; but a fear of giving offence, or of being thought to take an improper liberty, or of interrupting that freedom of communication, which I wish should subsist between myself and the farmers, and which seems indispensable to the success of the survey, induces me to withhold them, save where permission has been explicitly granted, or the nature of the case renders it obviously proper. The statements which I give, rest upon undoubted authority.

2. In *Otis.*—Twenty cows gave 5000 lbs. new milk cheese for sale; each averaging also 25 lbs. of butter; 600 lbs. of cheese were also used in the family.

Cow, Cr.	
280 lbs. cheese at 8c.	$22 40
25 " butter at 20c.	5 00
Calf	4 00
Pork, 26 lbs. at 6c.	1 56
	$32 96

Cow, Dr.		
Wintering	$12 00	
Pasturing	5 00	
Interest on cost of cow $15—10 per ct.	1 50	
Labor and attendance	2 16	
		20 66
Balance in favor of cow		$12 24

3. *Lanesboro'.*—Sales from 12 cows: cheese at 12 cents—butter at 25 cents—gross amount, 600 dollars. No account in this case is made of supplies in the family.

4. *Sandisfield.*—The average yield of a cow in ordinary seasons is rated at 250 lbs., with common keeping. By extra keeping, the quantity is increased to 350 or 400 lbs. The quantity of butter in addition, to each cow, is supposed to be from 40 to 50 lbs. where new milk cheese is made.

The amount of cheese made in Sandisfield, in 1837, was estimated by a most competent authority at 300,000 lbs.

Another farmer, with a dairy of 15 cows, states the average product of a cow, if she raises her calf, at 250 lbs.; if otherwise, at 300 lbs.; and 25 lbs. butter also, from each cow. Four hogs may be kept to 20 cows. In this way, weighing 100 lbs. in the spring, they will weigh 300 lbs. in the fall.—140 lbs. of pork is to be credited to 5 cows.

The cost of wintering a cow here, is rated at $10; pasturage $4. A good dairy woman will take charge of thirty cows, with assistance in milking and in handling cheese. Her wages will be $1 50 per week, with board.

5. In *Tyringham*, the average yield of a cow is reckoned at new milk cheese, 283 lbs., and butter at the same time, 57 lbs. A dairy of 28 cows gave 7912 lbs. new milk cheese, and 1600 lbs. butter. A large amount of pork was fatted on this farm, but it is difficult to say what portion of it is to be credited to the dairy.

6. In *Sheffield*, the average product of 28 cows was 394 lbs. new milk cheese, and 50 lbs. of butter each.

The product of a cow is thus stated by this excellent manager:

Cow, Cr.	
400 lbs. new milk cheese at 8c.	$32 00
Calf (killed at three days' old)	1 00
50 lbs. butter at 16 2-3	8 33
Whey and and butter-milk, make 100 lbs. pork	8 00
	$49 33

Supra, Dr.	
Winter keeping	$12 00
One acre of land costing $50 will pasture the cow	3 50
Salt 25 cents, 3 bs. bran $3	3 25
Interest on the value of cow at $25, 10 per ct.	2 50
Labor of milking, making butter, cheese, &c.	4 00
	$25 25
Balance in favor of the cow	$24 08

The quantity of land estimated for pasturage in this case seems small. It must be small for a general rule; another farmer in the same town assured me that he kept one yoke of oxen all the season and one horse half the season, on two and a half acres of land, which he showed me. The land had been greatly benefited by plaster.

EXTRAORDINARY COWS.

I shall give an account of some remarkable animals which have been found among what are called our native cattle. It is not pretended that they constitute a distinct race or characterize a particular class of animals; but they show at least what materials are within our reach, upon which to build a stock of high character.

A cow of Samuel D. Colt, of Pittsfield, from 1st December to 27th April, 148 days, produced 193 lbs. of butter.

A cow owned by R. Campbell, of Pittsfield, has yielded 23 beer quarts of milk per day.

A cow owned by Hosea Merrill, gave 30 beer quarts of milk per day.

A cow owned by D. Fenn of Stockbridge, 8 years old, produced in one week 12 lbs. 9 oz. butter. During the same time, 10 quarts of the milk were sold, and in addition cream and milk were used freely in the family.

A cow owned by Calvin Davis, 4 years old in the spring of 1838, in 172 days produced 225 lbs. butter, and fatted a calf. An accidental injury to the cow, prevented a continuance of making butter.

Two cows of Wm. Dewey, of Alford, in good season, averaged for a length of time, 14 pounds of butter each per week.

A cow belonging to the late Dr Hyde, of Stockbridge, for some time produced fourteen pounds of butter per week.

Two cows in Vandeusenville, produced 14 lbs. of butter each per week.

A cow belonging to —— Millard, of Egremont, produced 14 lbs. of butter per week.

From two cows belonging to Russell Brown, in Cheshire, besides the free use of milk and cream in the family, 90 lbs. of butter were produced and sold in three weeks, and in four successive weeks 114 pounds.

A cow owned in Stockbridge, by Stephen Willard, produced as follows:

In 321 successive days	331 lbs. butter.			
" 284	"	"	293	"
" 306	"	"	318	"
911 days.			942 lbs.	

The above is exclusive of 25 lbs. made while fattening three calves. He adds: "My method of keeping has been grass only, from spring to fall. In the fall I begin with pumpkins and potatoes, and feed moderately during the time she gives milk.—An account has been kept for only three years; but it would not vary much from the above, for the twelve seasons I have had her, except the present season she has been farrow." This cow is now 18 years old, "and will calve again about the middle of February."

Two cows owned in Pittsfield, produced each 50 lbs. of milk per day; and one other 32 lbs. at a milking.

A cow owned by Thomas Hodges, in North Adams, produced last year 425 lbs. of butter; 400 lbs. of this amount were made in nine months. Her feed consisted of one quart of rye meal and a half peck of potatoes per day, and very good pasturing.

To this list I will add the case of another cow in the neighboring county, whose product must be considered as quite extraordinary. She is owned by Joseph F. Upton, of Ashfield, Franklin county.

From the 1st of April, 1837, to the middle of February, 1838, her product was 335 lbs. 15 oz. From the 9th of May, 1838, to the 28th of December, 1838, she had produced 303 lbs. 3 oz. of butter, and was still making at the rate of one pound per day.

The owner adds "In the year 1837, I killed my calf at three days old, and gave my cow the skimmed milk through the summer. I commenced the first of October to feed on potatoes. I gave her about one peck per day boiled, as long as she gave milk. In the year 1838, I fattened my calf and killed it at four weeks old. It weighed 75 pounds. She has had nothing but grass this year, until the first of October; since then I have fed her with one peck of boiled potatoes per day. My cow is seven years old last spring." Her winter-keep at present, while giving milk, is as much hay as she will eat, and one peck of boiled potatoes per day. These cows are all of native stock, without any admixture of foreign blood. The three cases of largest product certainly cannot be considered as examples of high feeding. It is extremely desirable that some skilful farmer should, by a judicious selection from such animals as these, endeavor to form an improved race for the dairy. I have already said that this has been attempted by one gentleman in the State.

Before I proceed to say what he has accomplished, I will mention an interesting fact, communicated to me by an observing farmer of Stockbridge.—Thirtytwo years since, he became the possessor of a very productive cow; and has continued the breed to this day; she has never produced a bad milker, and some of her descendants, owned by other persons in the village, do equal credit to their parentage. The yield of one of them, which came within my knowledge, is twenty quarts per day.

DAIRY AND SOILING.

In Waltham, Middlesex county, a gentleman had four cows; but not a rod of ground which could be appropriated to pasturage. These animals were, therefore, never out of the barn or the barn-yard, and were fed with grass mown for them; with green corn fodder, which had been sown broadcast for this purpose; and with about three pints of meal each per day. The amount of their produce was kept for thirteen weeks. Two of these animals were heifers of two years old, who had calves the same spring; and the whole milk of one of them was taken by her calf during six weeks out of the thirteen. Some of the milk of the other was taken for family use, but the quantity not determined. Under these circumstances, these heifers could not be rated as equal to more than one cow of full age and milk. From this stock, however, thus circumstanced and fed, 389 lbs of butter were made in the thirteen weeks. An additional pound would have given an average of thirty pounds a week for the whole time to a stock which must be in fairness, set down as three cows only. This experiment was made in 1837.

CARROTS.

Jeremiah Valet, late of Stockbridge, but now an emigrant to the fertile west, a true philosopher in a homely garb—a pure diamond, though never in the hands of the lapidary—(I would not say this if he were not out of the reach of my voice)—was much in the habit of raising carrots, and gave a preference to them over every other vegetable for fattening swine and cattle. This was the result of repeated trials and long experience. To fatting swine he gives them boiled—to store hogs, raw.—His crops average 800 bushels to the acre.

John Merrill, of South Lee, has been a very successful cultivator of carrots. He states the yield on two acres at 600 bushels to the acre; and the cost of cultivation, exclusive of manure and rent of land, at 25 dollars per acre, or a little more than four cents per bushel. For feeding horses, he says, he should prefer one hundred bushels of carrots and one hundred bushels of oats to two hundred bushels of oats. He applied them in a raw state to the feeding of his team horses, and horses in preparation for market; and they were kept by them in high health and spirits. Oats followed his carrot crop on the same ground with great success. The experience of J. C. Curwen, Eng., in the use of carrots for horses, corresponds with that of Mr Merrill. The authority of Curwen is unquestionable; and he was in the habit of employing constantly as many as eighty horses on his farm and in his extensive coal mines.

"I cannot omit," he says, "stating the great profit of carrots. I have found by the experience of the last two years, that where eight pounds of oat feeding was allowed to draft horses, four pounds might be taken away and supplied by an equal weight of carrots; and the health, spirit, and ability of the horses to do their work be perfectly as good as with the whole quantity of oats. With the drill-husbandry and proper attention, very good crops of carrots may be obtained upon soils not generally supposed suitable to their growth."

He adds in another place—"The profits and advantages of carrots are, in my opinion, greater than any other crop. This admirable root has, upon repeated and very extensive trials for the last three years, been found to answer most perfectly as a part substitute for oats. Where ten pounds of oats are given per day, four pounds may be taken away and their place supplied by five pounds of carrots. This has been practised in the feeding of eighty horses for the last three years, with the most complete success, and the health and condition of the horses allowed to be improved by the exchange. An acre of carrots supplies an equal quantity of food for working horses, as sixteen to twenty acres of oats."*

*Curwen's Hints on Agricultural Subjects.

My own experience of the value of carrots, which has not been small, fully confirms these statements. I have obtained at the rate of more than a thousand bushels to the acre on three-quarters of an acre; but on several acres my crop has usually averaged 600 bushels to the acre.

—— Smith, of Middlefield, Hampshire county, from three-fourths of an acre obtained 900 bushels.

Charles Knowlton, of Ashfield, Franklin county, this year obtained 90 bushels on twelve rods of ground. This was at the rate of 1200 bushels to the acre.

D. Moore, of Concord, Middlesex county, from six rods of land, obtained this year 56 bushels, or at the rate of 1493 bushels to the acre.

According to Josiah Quincy's experience, in Quincy, Plymouth county, charging labor at one dollar per day, his carrots cost him eleven cents per bushel. David and Stephen Little, in Newbury, Essex county, in 1813, obtained 961 bushels to the acre, at an expense of $79 50, every expense included, excepting rent of land. This was at a rate less than nine cents to a bushel.

I shall subjoin in the Appendix an account of an experiment made in feeding swine, illustrating the value of this vegetable, from Arthur Young.

The great objection to the cultivation of carrots lies in the difficulty of keeping them, while growing, free from weeds. If sowed without any preparation, the seed is a long time in germinating, and a plentiful crop of weeds is liable to get possession of the land before the carrots make their appearance. There is another difficulty. The carrot seed, from its minuteness, is liable to be sowed too thickly. To obviate, in a degree, these objections, let the ground be ploughed deeply, well manured, and put in fine tilth; and let the first and perhaps the second crop of weeds be ploughed in. After this, let the land be thrown into ridges two feet apart, and the seed sown on top of the ridges, either in a single line, or the ridges be made so wide as to receive two rows of carrots, eight inches or one foot apart. In the mean time, the seed should be freely mixed with fine sand; and this sand kept so moist that the seed shall germinate. As soon as it is sprouted it should be sown. This may be so arranged that the sowing shall take place about the first of June. They will then have the start of the weeds. The mixture with sand will prevent their being sown too thickly. After the first thinning and weeding is over, if done with care, the battle may be considered as won. Afterwards let them be cultivated with a plough or a cultivator, and kept clean. When the time of digging arrives, the work will be greatly facilitated by passing a plough directly along the side of the carrots; and they are easily thrown out by the hand.

MILLET.—It is stated in a work on agriculture, that a gentleman in Pennsylvania sowed a peck to the acre the last of May—sowed four acres—cut middle of August, and suffered to dry in the sun for two or three days—produce 75 bushels of seed and one and a half tons of fodder to the acre. Cattle relish it. The produce per acre is frequently much greater than stated above. It is often cut in the milk. It is first sown in drills about three feet apart, and the plants should stand six inches from each other in the rows after hoeing. In this latitude (New Jersey) it may be sown from the middle of May to the 20th of June.—*Corr. Farmer's Cabinet.*

[For the New England Farmer.]

FARMERS CABINETS.

New York July, 17, 1839.

Rev. Mr Colman,—My Dear Sir, While on a visit for a night, to a Pennsylvania German farmer we had some conversation on the facilities possessed by farmers, for aiding in the general diffusion of knowledge. Among these facilities was specified their knowledge of forest and fruit trees, and their convenience for preparing specimens for the use of public cabenets. Within a week or ten days after that, I received a letter from him, containing the names of fifty different kinds of trees growing in his vicinity, stating that himself and son, since I left them, had procured specimens of forty kinds, and expected soon to have the remainder, and probably several others. They also proposed, during the fall to collect specimens of the fruit or seed produced by the several trees; also to furnish, by impressions of the leaves, made by oiled, smoked, paper, and by the leaves themselves, formed into Foliums, to preserve the character of the foliage of the various trees of their forests and orchards.

His mode of preparing the specimens of wood was to take from a limb or a small tree, from four to six inches in diameter, a section of four or five inches in length, and split it into quarters or sixths, with a portion of bark upon each, one side smoothed with a plane, and the other left in the form it took in splitting, and one end cut perpendicularly, the other obliquely, to the grain of the wood. The particular object of the specimens was for presenting to the cabinet of the County Lyceum, also another set to send to Philadelphia.

My object in mentioning this fact, is to present one, among many hundred modes, which have been taken to promote and diffuse useful knowledge, a knowledge of things, among all classes and ages of the community; by which ignorant farmers, even "Dumb Dutchmen," can enlighten the minds of many, who already profess to have great light, and possibly to look upon their neighbors, less favored than themselves, as enveloped in thick clouds of ignorance.

In nearly every section of Pennsylvania "Cabinets of Nature and Art" are exceedingly common in families, schools, and Lyceums. These cabinets consist of minerals, plants, embracing specimens of wood, seed or fruit and leaves; shells, insects, drawings, penmanship, needlework, mechanism, &c. They are most always collected and prepared by the younger members of families, both for their homes and their schools. House plants, and garden beds for flowers, are cultivated with much care and taste by the wives and daughters of many of the German famers.

The instruments of useful knowledge, refined taste, and social enjoyment, have been largely furnished, and widely extended, by "*Committees of Three*," formed in great numbers in the schools of Philadelphia and many places in the interior of the state. To each of these committees is assigned some county, town or school, which they are to furnish with specimens, or to make the subjects of inquiry as the ground of correspondence or of useful knowledge. By this means small elementary cabinets have been sent to every county, and in many counties, to every town, in Pennsylvania.

In the county of Chester, Pa. there is probably more science, or science more generally diffused than in any other county in the United States. A child can hardly be found over eight or ten years of age, especially in many parts of the county, who is not entirely familiar with all the common and most of the useful minerals, and with a large portion of the plants growing in their vicinities,

In West Chester a small town, are five large buildings devoted to the purposes of education and science, which cost not less than 20,000 dollars, besides commodious houses for district schools. In one of these buildings, the County Lyceum, forty feet by fifty, three stories high, with rooms for some use, in the basement and attic, is an extensive cabinet, which, besides specimens of all, or nearly all, the minerals, plants, birds, insects and other animals found in the county, contains numerous foreign specimens in different departments of nature. Their herbarium is probably among the most extensive in the United States, containing numerous European plants received by way of exchange from various parts of Europe, and probably from other quarters of the globe.

One school in this place, collected, pressed and put up, two or three years since, in sheets or books, forty four collections of plants, each containing one hundred specimens for the Lyceum Cabinets in each of the forty four towns in the county. Another school collected, labelled and put up, 250 small mineral cabinets, for all the schools in the county. Specimens of drawing and needlework, were also prepared in the schools in this, as they were in many other towns for the use of conventions held in different parts of the state. These various specimens of juvenile improvement, prepared in numerous schools in the state were also sent to almost every quarter of the globe, especially to the various missionary stations in different parts of the earth. A volume of 500 or 600 pages, describing all the plants in this county, has been prepared by Dr Darlington of West Chester. More and better instruction in drawing, embracing architecture, machinery, plants, birds, insects and other departments of nature, is probably given in Philadelphia, than in any other town in the U. States. It is also taught with great skill in many, if not most schools, in all sections of the state. This exercise is becoming exceedingly common, and ought to be universal, or practised by every pupil in every school, as one of the first and most elementary branches. There is not a man or woman in the whole world, who has not frequent occasion to use it. If *permitted*, children will teach themselves this art, and much better than they are taught by most professed drawing masters, whom I have seen, who merely teach their pupils to *imitate* pictures. If permitted to *teach themselves*, children will never fail to make their drawings from nature, or from the objects they wish to represent. Drawing evidently ought to precede manuscript writing, as it calls into exercise almost all the faculties of children, and is admirably fitted to cultivate taste, and of course to refine the mind. As an instrument and medium of exchanges among schools and individuals, it is probably the very best, as it speaks a universal language, and can be read and understood by all nations and tongues, and scarcely less by the untutored savage than by accomplished scholars.

Without continuing to enumerate specimens proper for cabinets of nature, or the various modes of procuring them, it is evident that one many be provided for every family in the whole world, as it does not even require a knowledge of letters; much less piles of costly buildings and learned professors; and for commencing them, not even a book; though these will all come in their course: rather they will produce teachers, books, scientific halls and a full supply of the very best instruments of knowledge.

Such being the character, and such the tendency and results of this natural, instructive, and delightful mode of furnishing employment for children, why not commence it at once? Why not propose some day when the friends of schools, especially the young naturalists in all our schools, shall be invited to meet in every town or neighborhood in the country, for presenting to each other, the fruits of their efforts and intelligence previously encouraged and aided by parents or teachers.

I will take this opportunity to say, that I had no intention in a hasty letter sent you a few weeks since, to speak disparagingly of systematic, scientific lectures. As aids, not substitutes, for personal effort, I have deemed them the very best. To depreciate the lectures of Professor Sillman, would be both unjust and ungrateful; as he has done more, if I am not mistaken, than any other man in the U. States to diffuse useful knowledge, and as I have partaken largely of his politeness, as well as of his instructions. I am sincerely,

and always Yours,

J. HOLBROOK.

The Harvest Prospect. In this eating world, the harvest question is one of much importance,—far above that of the Presidential question, or a thousand other questions which often interest the public. It is stated in a New York paper, that wherever the harvest has taken place, it has proved abundant, far beyond that of late years. In Western New York it is said to exceed *all* precedent. In the Scioto valley (Ohio) more wheat has been gathered than for any year for twenty back. In Pennsylvania and Maryland the promise is abundant;—and in short, every where, North and South, East and West, harvest time has proved, a blessing and a source of joy.—*Salem Obs.*

House Plants. A method has been recently discovered, by which even the most delicate plants may be cultivated in parlors and elsewhere, with great ease and perfect success, avoiding all the evils resulting from the dust and smoke, and from negligence in watering, which are the ordinary course of decay and final destruction of plants kept in dwellings. The remedy is, to enclose them in glass cases, which may be either inverted vases, or boxes containing earth in the bottom, and glazed at the top and sides. The rapid evaporation is thus prevented, and the plants preserved from injury of any description. The lovers of parlor plants will no doubt put this mode of cultivation to the test. It must prove economical as well as agreeable, as it will save the expense of purchasing new plants every few months, as they are obliged to do under the present system of management.

Boston W. Magazine.

Cattle. Two hundred head of Cattle were sold at Baltimore, one day last week, for less than nine dollars the cwt.

Sixty sheep struck by lightning, were found dead on the farm of Mr Hornbeck, at Libertyville, Ulster co. New York, a few days since. Several sheep were also killed at Greenfield, Mass.

Remedy for hard times—more plouging on *land banks* and less discounting in *paper banks.*

POTATOES.

The potato is unquestionably the most valuable root cultivated by man. It is grown with little care, yields good crops, can be grown in almost every variety of soil, and its nutritive properties are not exceeded by any other root either for man or beast. Though it can be cultivated with little care, and though almost any soil will produce potatoes, there are few crops that in both quantity and quality better repay any extra attention they may receive than this root.

The potato, like most other cultivated plants, delights in a strong rich loam, and other circumstances being equal, such a soil will usually produce one-fourth more than one very tenacious and heavy, or very light and sandy. In new settled districts large crops of potatoes are grown in the soils that contain great supplies of vegetable mould, but experience would seem to justify the opinion that in such soils the quality of the potato is rarely first rate. A grass ley—clover is the best—has been found, when properly prepared and manured, to be excellent for this crop; and if the soil is rather moist than otherwise, it is considered as increasing the chances of a good yield. Countries that have naturally a cool moist atmosphere, are found to produce far better potatoes than those that have a dry and high temperature. Thus Ireland, surrounded as it is by the ocean, and necessarily of a low and equable climate, is famous for its potatoes; and of this continent, the part most famed for the quality of this root is New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, which districts are noted for the moisture of the climate. With any part of the northern or middle States, however, the fault of not having good potatoes, or not having them in sufficient quantity, must be traced to the negligence of the farmer rather than to any deficiencies of soil or climate.

The preparation of a field for the potato is simple. If a grass ley be sufficiently rich without manuring, (a rare case with this crop,) the sod may be carefully turned over, rolled down, and then the surface earth loosened with a fine harrow, in which the tubers or sets are to be planted. If it requires manuring, let the manure, and this should be long rather than short, be evenly spread over the ground; with the plough make a furrow, and into this let one hand haul the manure to the requisite width, while another drops the seed potatoes on the manure so placed in the furrow. This row is covered by the plough, and the operation is repeated till all are planted. Corn on the ley is generally preferred, and roots well manured after the corn.—The first in the rotation may depend on convenience, as the turf is excellent for either.

A multitude of experiments have been made and recorded both in England and the United States, to determine the best method of planting the seed, whether in whole tubers or in roots cut into two or more pieces, called sets. The results of these experiments have been somewhat contradictory, yet they seem to have established the fact that whole tubers will produce rather more potatoes than sets, but not more than sufficient to balance the extra quantity of seed required where whole potatoes are used. There are many farmers who prefer sets altogether, and the probability is, that twenty bushels of large potatoes cut into sets and planted with a proper number in a hill, would produce more potatoes than the same quantity planted whole, but the space of ground planted would of course be more extensive with the first than the last. Mr Rhodes, of Skaneateles, an observing and very intelligent farmer, says he would not use whole potatoes could he have them given him, for seed; and his success with sets would seem to justify the preference.

It was once the fashion among farmers to make little mountains of their potato hills; but that seems to have been useless labor, and extra hilling is dispensed with. The ground after planting should be kept free from weeds, the earth stirred with the cultivator or the hoe, but after the tubers have begun to form the plough should not be used, as it frequently cuts so deep as to disturb the young plants, breaking off the little tubers, or causing the formation of new roots, processes decidedly injurious to the crop. The general length of the vines must determine the distance at which the rows are to be planted, and this of course varies greatly in the several kinds commonly cultivated. If potatoes are planted in the rows nearer one way than the other, the rows should run north and south, that the sun may produce its proper effect on the leaves of the plant, and on the surface of the earth between the rows; and the same remark will hold good of corn or other plants, the rows of which should always run north and south, when the make of the land will permit.

When it is found that potatoes yield large quantities of balls, it is considered by many farmers, a proof that the potato has reached its maturity and begun to degenerate; the production of seeds in all plants being indicative of this fact. Mr Knight, the celebrated writer and gardener, maintained the certainty of the arrival at maturity, and consequent degeneration of all varieties of plants, the potato among the rest, and the necessity of occasionally renewing them from the seeds, which is the process nature herself employs for preventing the degeneracy or extinction of plants.

There are few districts in our country where favorite varieties of the potato are not cultivated, and not unfrequently the same kind is known in different places by different names. The Pinkeye, the Sardinia, the Mecca, or Chenango, the English and Irish whites, and the several varieties of the red and black potato, are the best known. The Rohan potato, lately introduced into this country from France, promises to be a great acquisition both for productiveness and quality. But we have yet seen no potato that for the table, could be compared for excellence with the Pinkeye. It cannot be considered a great bearer, though it yields well; but for flavor, and amount of nutrition, we think it unrivalled.

The production of early potatoes for the markets of our cities and villages, is becoming yearly a matter of more interest to the farmer; by practising the mode adopted in England of selecting the earliest kinds, and then treating them in the following manner, described by Loudon, important improvements might doubtless be effected. The cultivators in Lancashire have found that there is a fortnight's difference between the ripening of potatoes grown from opposite ends of the same potato; that part to which the root is attached being the latest in ripening, while those that spring from the nose end, are found much in advance of the others in vigor, early maturity and in size. Each potato is therefore by the gardeners divided into three parts, which are planted by themselves, and thus they ripen and are fit for the market together.

The potato being in its native state a poisonous plant, like many others of the tropical climates from which wholesome nutriment may be derived, it should not be cooked until ripe, or becomes mealy. The value of a potato depends in a great measure on the starch it contains, and of course the nutritive matter greatly varies in the several varieties, and in the same varieties at different times. Perhaps there is no method that develops the quality of a potato more fully than baking. We have seen a very fine early variety, and also some superior specimens of the Pinkeye, when exposed to the heat of the oven, expand and burst like parched corn, into a thousand fragments. Such roots contain little else than pure starch; and the experiments of Raspail on the nutritive action of the potato, show that in such plants it is found in the most abundant quantity. Next to baking, steaming is the preferable method of preparing this root, and experience shows that it should never be given to any animal unless in a cooked state, if we would derive from it its full value.

Cellars in which the temperature is but a few degrees above the freezing point, or from 40° to 45°, are the best for roots, and particularly for the potato; but they keep no where so well as in pits, covered with just enough earth to keep out the frost. Light and exposure to the air, are injurious to roots, and in pits these are excluded. To have these roots then in their excellence in the spring, enough should be pitted for use as well as for planting. Some writers in the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, have strenuously recommended that potatoes intended for seed, should be gathered before they are fully ripened, as being less subject to failure or to disease. But we have never known in this country any thing to justify such a course, and besides it is, we think, contrary to the course pointed out by nature herself. The average crop of potatoes per acre in the States is not large, owing to the imperfect and careless method of culture. In Susquehannah county, Pa., in 1838, the average of 2400 acres was 170 bushels per acre, which we presume exceeded the average of many other sections of our country. Now in ordinary seasons and with decent culture, the average should not be less than 300 bushels per acre; and when we remember that many instances have occurred of from 500 to 1000 bushels per acre, such an average could not be deemed extravagant. More manure and less land, would doubtless increase our potato crops, as well as most others.—*Genesee Far.*

Table Beer.—The Southern Cultivator gives the following recipe for making table beer:

"To make a cheap and wholesome table beer, take eight bottles of water, one quart of molasses, one pint of yeast, one table spoonful of cream of tartar. These ingredients being well stirred and mixed in an open vessel, after standing twenty four hours, the beer may be bottled immediately."

Disease of Cattle—its remedy.—Numbers of cattle during the last winter, died from over feeding, or other obstruction of the intestines: the symptoms were a protruded size from swelling, sometimes very suddenly. A sure remedy has been found by the farmers in Bradford, Hillsborough, and some other towns in this State, by mixing a quantity of apple cider with old cheese made from the milk of the cow—say half a pound or more of cheese grated in a pint of cider. This mixture poured down the throat of the swelled animal, has been known to effect a cure by carrying off the swelling in a few minutes.—*Farmer's Monthly Visitor.*

From the Cleveland Herald.

EDUCATION OF FARMERS.—No. VI.

MEANS AND MEASURES.

Mr Harris—I have already more than once adverted to some of the means to be used and measures to be adopted, to promote the education and to protect the rights of farmers. I will close these short essays by throwing out a few hints, and making a few suggestions of a more definite character on the same subject.

I would first suggest the propriety of farmers taking their own education and their own legislation into their own hands. The means of education within their own reach are too ample to be under the necessity of resorting to colleges or high schools for procuring either an education or instructors for their children. If their means of education were not ample, if they were entirely insufficient, colleges and high schools could not help them. They have spoiled ten farmers where they have made one.

Nor can they depend upon books, though every farmer ought to be, as he certainly may be, a man of reading, and of extensive reading. But all his reading should be put to the test of his own experience and observation. He ought to adopt no man's opinion, either in religion, politics or business, without putting it to the test of his own judgment, and judgment founded on experience and observation. With his own judgment at the helm, he can hardly read too much; without that, he can hardly read too little. For maturing a judgment founded on large experience, no school and no opportunities can be better than those afforded by his farm, his business operations, and his intercourse with society.

For aiding his experiments and directing his operations, every farmer ought to be familiar with all the fundamental principles of natural science. This is the more important, as those principles are comparatively few and exceedingly simple; so much so as to be, to a great extent, within the comprehension, and the highest delight of children, long before they can comprehend anything from books. These simple, elementary principles of science, which all children are so eager to acquire, are of the utmost importance for aiding them to understand and to relish the contents of books, even the very first books put into their hands.

Under these views, one important step to be taken by farmers for the education of their children, and the improvement of themselves, is to procure or to aid and encourage their children in procuring family cabinets, or collections of minerals, plants, shells, insects, drawings, prints, &c., with a few simple articles of apparatus for performing experiments, to illustrate some of the fundamental principles of nature.

With these as a starting point, and slates and pencils succeeded by paper and lead pencils, and a few books in the same spirit, children will literally learn themselves the art of writing, reading, spelling, and speaking correctly, almost without time, certainly of a character far superior to what they ever do, or ever can acqure by the bla, ble, blo system.

Another important measure which farmers may adopt for their own education, is the forming of social lyceums, or weekly meetings of a few neighbors for conversation, reading, examining specimens, trying experiments, and above all, for preparing specimens of scientific exchanges, by which their own collections will be greatly increased, and greatly increased interest given to their meetings. Such meetings and such exercises are particularly interesting to the females and the younger members of families.

For the special benefit of the business of farmers, they have often formed social lyceums, confined to themselves, which are particularly appropriate for the winter. Connected with these meetings, a regular system of experiments has been instituted, by which each can have the benefit of the experiments of the whole, and of experiments carefully tried under the direction of science.

These social meetings and the regular series of experiments instituted by farmers, furnish some of the most valuable materials for farmers' journals, and the strongest inducements as well as means for sustaining them, both by materials and money. A farmer could hardly take and peruse a 'Monthly Farmer' or any periodical conducted by and for farmers, without being more than remunerated for his expense in a single fact or hint, which he might find in the work. The least possible reading which any farmer ought to reduce himself to, is consulting his bible daily and his 'Monthly Farmer,' 'Cultivator,' 'Visitor' or some other periodicals, as often as once a week.

Both interest and duty would lead every farmer to pursue a much more general course of reading. Works on Natural Science, Political Economy, History, Biography, and other works, to aid him in understanding and sustaining his rights and duties as a republican and christian, may be read and studied by every farmer, who wishes to realize their benefits.

More favorable opportunities could hardly be provided for improvement by reading and social intercourse than are furnished in farmers' winter evenings. By reading, examining specimens, performing experiments, and by meetings for improving each other, every farmer besides becoming highly intelligent and successful in his own business, may be sufficiently enlightened in the relations he sustains in society, and in the relations existing between the various classes and departments of society, to enable him to fulfil not only the duties of a private citizen, but of such public offices as his fellow citizens may call him to perform.

Reading, social intercourse, cabinets of nature, chemical and philosophical experiments, scientific exchanges, and especially common schools, must be greatly aided by well qualified lecturers on the different subjects of school education, physical sciences, political economy, and numerous subjects of useful knowledge; more however to aid the various classes of the community to instruct themselves, than to communicate instructions to them. A semi-monthly or even monthly meeting, of two or three hours, to be attended by a skilful and an experimental teacher, who should visit some dozen or twenty places in succession, might do much to direct and aid the reading, conversation, and experiments, and to give system and energy to the efforts of all who might enjoy his instructions, especially the younger portions of the community. Circuit schools of the kind proposed, if assisted by two lecturers and teachers in connexion, rather alternately, would probably be still more beneficial without any additional expense.

On a subject so vast, indeed so entirely inexhaustible, as that now under view, a few newspaper essays are barely sufficient to admit of a few hints touching it. With the hints already given, as few and as brief as they are, I must dismiss the subject, with the kind regards and high esteem of

Your friend,

J. HOLBROOK.

Hen Coops.—Hens are useful—valuable, and as profitable as any stock on the farm; but like other stock, they should have an enclosure by themselves at certain seasons of the year, especially in the spring when the sowing and planting begins. A very cheap and convenient yard may be made for them by taking common boards, a suitable number of posts—nail the boards so nigh together that the hens cannot get through between them. This frame need not be more than four or five feet high. Then at the top nail on shingles cut so as to make sharp points, and nail them up say two inches apart. Laths cut and nailed on are better—or narrow sticks split and made sharp, and nailed on, will answer the purpose. A door of convenient size may be made to go in at. The hens may then be put in and there will be little danger of their attempting to scale the walls. The sharp points sticking up all round, look too formidable. The philosophy of the thing is this. The hen is not very good for flight, and when she attempts to fly over anything, she almost invariably lights upon it, and then jumps off. As they cannot light and rest upon these sharp points, they cannot get over very conveniently, and should any succeed in flying over at a single leap, their wings may be clipped. When put into one of these coops, food should be kept by them constantly, and also water—a little ashes for them to shake up among their feathers in a sunny day, some gravel to grind their food with, and some lime to manufacture into egg shells. When thus supplied, they will lay as well and do as well here as when out ranging about. We keep our hens and turkeys in such a yard, and find that they do extremely well.—*Maine Farmer.*

Gigantic Clover.—A late number of the London Globe, contains the following account of a new species of clover, the seed of which has just been brought into that country from Asia:

"A gentleman has just arrived from Georgia who has brought with him a new colossal and prolific clover seed from Bukhara, which he is going to submit to Mr Loudon. According to the accounts of the most celebrated travellers who have visited that distant and important country, which is equal in climate to Great Britain, all grains, herbs and vegetables distinguish themselves by their gigantic growth. The clover seed just imported, grows to the enormous height of twelve or fifteen feet, and can be cut every month. But this is not the only valuable property of this most extraordinary production of the vegetable kingdom. Out of the stem a hemp is prepared, which is so highly esteemed in the distant region of which it is a native, that preference is given to it over all other sorts.

Should the plan succeed in England, and of which there can be but little doubt, it will form a new era, by rendering this country independent of foreign supplies of clover seed. It is fortunate that it has arrived in time to be tried this year. It must be sown in April. It is said that each grain will produce three hundred thousand seeds."

The Northampton Gazette says that the greater part of the wool in that section of the State has been sold to manufacturers at prices generally from fifty to fiftyfive cents per pound.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1839.

WHEAT CROP.

The abortive attempts made last year in Massachusetts, produced so much disappointment, that comparatively little wheat was sown this season. What was sown, however, in general looks well; and, unforseen and uncontrollable accidents excepted, will yield a fair return. We have seen several fields of one, two and four acres, which we have no doubt will yield twenty, twentyfive and thirty bushels to the acre. The failure of the last season was no doubt owing to the severity of the drought in most cases. We are more than ever convinced that in most parts of Massachusetts she may easily supply her own wheaten bread. The great object to be aimed at in order to success, is to bring to the surface a fresh soil. We are satisfied that in many cases, the application of lime to the soil would be highly favorable; in no case applied in any reasonable measure can it do harm; and in all it will be ultimately and permanently beneficial; but as yet we see no reason to alter our early conviction, a conviction not taken up at random and capriciously, but growing out of many facts and careful and reiterated experiments, that it is not indispensable. From the best information we can gather, we consider wheat under proper cultivation is ordinarily as successful as rye; and therefore from its superior value, it may be strongly recommended as a crop with which to stock down our land, when we propose to lay it in grass.

One great deficiency in our cultivation is, that it is too slovenly for wheat. We do not in some cases, take pains to have our lands thoroughly drained, so that no water may stand upon them, and the ground not be left saturated with water during winter, where winter wheat is sowed, or after rains late in the season. Nothing is more prejudicial to wheat than this neglect. In the next place, our grounds are surcharged with weeds. Wheat is for example, often sown after potatoes. What can be more rare than a clean potato crop? In general potatoes are manured with the coarsest manure; and much of it the sweepings of the barn floor full of chaff; and then they are seldom hoed more than twice, more frequently perhaps, but once in a season, so that the weeds ripen their seeds and fill the ground with a pernicious growth for the next season, among which we could scarcely expect that wheat should flourish. It is not uncommon to see an attempt at raising wheat where the weeds entirely overpower the grain. Success under such circumstances, is certainly not to be looked for. "Can a man gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles?" In the account given of the agriculture of Norfolk, Eng. it is said that Lord Erskine, in riding over the farm of the distinguished Mr Coke, and surveying his extensive fields of wheat, discovered a single plant of lavender among the growing grain. This was deemed quite remarkable; and a premium was offered for any one who would discover any weeds in the growing crop. Mr Coke we believe not unfrequently gets six and seven quarters (eight bushels to a quarter) of wheat to the acre. Our farmers have no patience for any such cultivation as this, and with ground half prepared, full of weeds, without water furrows to drain off the wet, and perhaps with seed poorly selected and but half cleaned, we complain that we cannot raise wheat. It is matter of more just surprise that with our modes of cultivation, if modes they can be called, we can raise anything. We know of no experiments having been made with the exception of one on a very small scale, of cultivating wheat in drills and hoeing between the drills. This is sometimes done abroad, and Beatson's Cultivator, of which one was imported by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, is used for cleaning between the drills, which are about eight inches apart. It is, we believe, generally conceded, that the increase of the crop in this case will scarcely pay for the extra labor and pains. It is hardly to be expected with our off-hand and sleight of hand way of doing things, that such cultivation should be ever dreampt of among us. Presently, however, we indulge the hope, that by some enterprising and careful farmer, the experiment at least upon a small scale, will be made among us. We confidently hope in the language of the times, that the good old Bay State will go ahead in the wheat cultivation; and we say in the language of the brave Lawrence, on an occasion of infinitely less importance, "Don't give up the ship."

H. C.

SUCKERING INDIAN CORN.

The question is repeatedly proposed, is it best to sucker our corn? We believe as a general rule that no growing plant can be mutilated or stripped of its crown, its limbs, or its leaves, without injury; or at least that it cannot be safely done before the seed is completely formed. There are exceptions to this at least of a qualified nature, as where a melon vine is stopped or a grape vine girdled with a view of forwarding the ripening of the fruit. The suckers of corn are of course not so important to the plant as the stalks; and the fodder obtained by removing them will be some equivalent for the labor expended in the operation. But upon the whole we hesitate in advising to it. We once suckered a large field. The growth was most extraordinarily luxuriant and heavy; and a great deal of the corn was broken down by the process. We did not accurately measure the crop, which some accidental circumstances prevented our doing; but as well as we could judge, the amount of produce was not increased, and the whole field was materially injured. We know a careful farmer in Middlesex county, who operating on a small scale and with his own hands, in a case too where the field is so small that he finds no difficulty in carrying out his suckers, who believes that he has derived some small advantage from it. The Rev Dr Lyman, of Hatfield, gave to the Massachusetts Society an account of an experiment performed by him, of suckering a considerable field some years since. We have not seen the account for a long time; but as well as we can remember, he regarded the increase of the produce or the saving of the fodder from the suckers as not a compensation for the trouble and the injury to the corn. The fodder from the suckers is not lost if left standing until the whole is gathered. The judgment of Lorain, whose authority in all matters pertaining to agriculture will not be questioned, is against suckering corn, or cutting the stalks until the crop is fully ripened.

In the southern States the leaves of Indian corn are stripped off for the winter fodder of their horses, and as their only practicable substitute for hay. We wish some intelligent southern cultivator, as our respected friend Ruffin, of the Farmer's Register, if this should meet his eye, or the intelligent editor of the Southern Agriculturist, would give us their views on this subject and inform us of any satisfactory experiments which may have been made to test the advantages or the injury of the practice. If opportunity presents, we shall advert to the matter of topping stalks and gathering the crop hereafter; old matters indeed, and on which we have nothing novel to recommend, but in respect to which it may be useful to call to recollection some decisive and instructive experiments which have been made. H. C.

STEAM NAVIGATION TO ENGLAND AND FOREIGN NEWS.

The Great Western has completed another of her periodical flights over the broad Atlantic in fourteen days' passage. It is said that one gentleman who went out has returned in her; and after transacting considerable business in London, has reached his family after an absence of only six weeks. What is the next miracle to be performed in the way of travelling?

The steamer brings intelligence of a declaration of war on the part of the Turkish Sultan against his Mahometan brother in Egypt, and of the kindling of the fires of strife and resentment between Russia and France —at least of an attempt to rake open the embers and fan the sparks. When will these things have an end!— When will men cease to be savages and tigers, and learn something of Christianity, at least the first letters of its alphabet! Alas! poor human nature! Humanity is everywhere trampled upon; and man in spite of all that civilization has done, is still to be classed among the most ferocious of the beasts of prey.

Great riots have taken place among the operatives at Birmingham, and numbers have been shot down by the dragoons after some of the police had been killed.— These matters are spoken of as coolly and philosophically as would be the hunting of wild game and bagging our patridges and woodcocks at night. In our humble opinion, the state of society in England is most threatening to the public peace; and she is sitting upon the crust of a volcano. Mobs and riots we hold in utter alarm and abhorrence; but there is too much reason in many cases of outbreak among the lower classes of the people, to think that they are in the main right; and that these are but the effervescences of honest though it may be misguided minds, stung to the quick and broken down with despair under a sense of oppression, cruelty, injustice, and outraged humanity. The day of retribution must come in the end. H. C.

BREAD STUFFS.—The Pittsburg Gazette of the 22d inst. states that flour was selling there on that day at $3 50 per bbl. In some parts of Ohio, it is added, wheat had fallen within three or four weeks past, from $1 50 to 75 cents per bushel. At Louisville, wheat was selling at 75 cts. but it was expected to fall to 62 1-2 cts.—*Times.*

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, July 20, 1839.

Among the fruits exhibited this day were Peaches of surpassing beauty and exquisite fragrance; Grapes, of fine color, heavy clusters, and the berries of large size. The following gentlemen were the contributors;

By J. F. Allen, Salem; Royal George Clingstone and Admirable Peaches.

By Robert Milne, Portland, Me; Royal George Freestone Peaches.

By Dr Eustis, Brookline; Black Hamburgh and White Chasselas Grapes.

By Otis Johnson, Lynn; Black Hamburgh Grapes.

By Jacob Tidd, Roxbury; Black Hamburgh and White Chasselas Grapes.

By Samuel Walker, Roxbury; several varieties of dessert Gooseberries.

By James L. L. F. Warren, Brighton; a number of sorts of Gooseberries, names unknown.

By J. Hovey, Roxbury; Gooseberries and large Dutch white Currants.

By Thos. Mason, Charlestown; Seedling, Barnet, and White Antwerp Raspberries—all very fine.

For the Committee,

E. M. RICHARDS.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, July 29.

The display of Fruits was very choice, and it gave us pleasure to notice the very decided improvement in the size and color (since the last week) of J. F. Allen's peaches, grown in Salem They were truly very splendid. The same gentleman also exhibited fine specimens of Black Hamburgh Grapes, and three varieties of White Chasselas.

By J .S. Ellery, Woodland Brookline—Black Hamburgh, White Chasselas and Miller's Burgundy grapes; the latter uncommonly large for that variety.

By Matthew Skilton, Charlestown; large Apricots—name not mentioned.

By B. V. French, Braintree; Heath's Early Nonsuch Apples—a small but desirable fruit for its early maturity.

By William Kenrick, Nonantum Hill, Newton; various sorts of Gooseberries, also large White Dutch Currants.

For the Committee on Fruits,
E. M. RICHARDS.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, July 29, 1839.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market, 170 Beef Cattle, (including those unsold last week,) 12 Cows and Calves, 110 Stores, and 2600 Sheep.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Sales quick and prices of last week were fully sustained. We quote First quality, $8 00 a $8 25. Second quality, $7 50 a $7 75. Third quality, $6 50 a $7 25.

Stores.—About half at market were sold in one lot. We did not learn the price. A few only were peddled.

Cows and Calves.—Sales were noticed at $26, $33, $45, $54 and $60.

Sheep.—Dull. Some lots of old sheep were sold for 50 cents a head, less than they cost in the country. We noticed a fine lot of Wethers from Hosick, N. Y., sold less than the original cost. We quote lots from $1 25 to $3 50.

Swine.—None at market except a very few old hogs unsold last week, and there appears to be no demand. The old hogs were very fine and were taken for 7 1-4, mostly barrows.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending July 28.

July, 1839.		5 A.M.	12, M.	7, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	22	70	88	74	S. E.
Tuesday,	23	68	83	69	W.
Wednesday,	24	66	79	71	E.
Thursday,	25	67	82	74	S. E.
Friday,	26	70	88	70	W.
Saturday,	27	64	80	67	N.
Sunday,	28	60	82	73	E.

Showers every day except two, notwithstanding which it has been a very good time for making hay.

DORKING FOWLS.

For sale, a few pair pure *Dorking Fowls.* "Few breeds, I apprehend, have a title to boast of so high and long continued a reputation as the Dorking. The Dorking are a species generally made into Capons."—*Mowbray on Poultry.*

These fowls attain to a large size, and the hens are good layers. Price $3 per pair. Apply to
July 31. tf JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

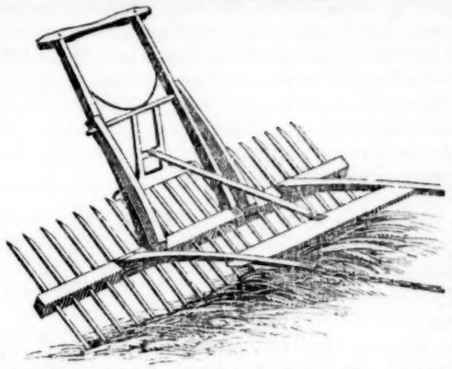
FOR SALE.

A splendid Oleander (Nerium variegatum) five or six feet high. One of the finest we have ever seen. For particulars inquire of C. H. B. BRECK, or JOSEPH BRECK & CO. 51 and 52 North Market Street.
July 31.

Complete Garden and Horticultural Tool Chests,

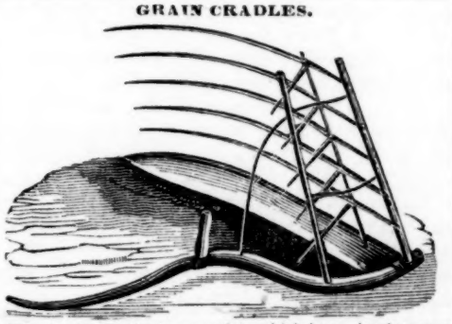
From Sheffield, England; containing Garden Shears, improved Pruning Shears and Scissors, Pruning and Grafting Knives, Flower Gatherer, Garden, Dutch and Triangular Hoes, Saw, Spud, Weeding Hook, Garden Rake, Trowel Hammer and Garden Reel; comprising every useful implement necessary for the cultivation of the Flower Garden. For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street.

REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.



The Revolving Rake which has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is found to be one of the most useful and labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day, with ease, and do the work well. They are are coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and will, no doubt, in a few years supersede the use of the common hand rake. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street.

GRAIN CRADLES.



The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States, where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 & 52 North Market Street.
July 10.

AUSTIN'S SCYTHE RIFLES.

For sale at New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. These Rifles are considered the best. They are cased with fine Emery, wear well and give a good sharp edge to the scythe. They have come into very general use and are a good substitute for the scythe stone. A fresh lot just received. JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street.

NEW BOOKS.

A Treatise on the Cultivation of the Dahlia and Cactus. By E. Sayers.

Also, Birds and Flowers and other Country Things. By Mary Howitt.

Dennis' Silk Manual.

American Flower Garden Companion.

American Fruit Garden Companion, and

An Essay on the Practicability of Cultivating the Honey Bee in Maritime Towns and Cities as a Source of Domestic Economy and Profit. By J. V. C. Smith, M. D., for sale by
June 12 JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SCYTHES AND RAKES.

The subscribers have received their usual supply of Scythes, Rakes, &c. among which are

100 doz. Hall's Rakes, superior.
100 " Wilder and Eddy's, do.
200 " Common, do.
25 " English Cast Steel Grass Scythes.
10 " " " " Cradle "
100 " " " " Border "
200 " Round Scythe Stones and Rifles.
100 " Square " " "
300 " Patent Scythe Snaiths, superior.

June 19. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

		From	To
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		6 50	6 75
Pot, " " "		5 00	5 25
Beans, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 75	2 25
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	3 00
Beef, mess,	barrel		16 00
No. 1.	"	14 50	14 75
prime,	"		13 00
Beeswax, white,	pound		
yellow,	"	28	34
Cheese, new milk,	"	10	12
Bone Manure,	bushel		35
in casks,	"		40
Feathers, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	46
Flax, (American)	"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	3 62	3 75
Bay, Chaleur,	"		
Haddock, new,	"	1 50	2 00
Mackerel, No. 1	barrel		
No. 2,	"	9 37	
No 3.	"	6 50	
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1.	"	6 00	6 25
Salmon, No. 1,	"	21 00	22 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,	"	5 75	5 87
Baltimore, Howard street,	"	6 00	
Richmond canal,	"	5 75	6 00
Alexandria wharf,	"	5 87	
Rye,	"		
Meal, Indian, in bbls.	"	4 25	4 50
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel		
southern flat, yellow,	"	86	87
white,	"	75	
Rye, northern,	"	95	98
Barley,	"		
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	61	63
southern,	"		55
Hay, best English, per ton,		18 00	20 00
Eastern screwed,		12 50	13 50
Hops, 1st quality,	pound	16	
2d quality,	"	14	
Lard, Boston, 1st sort,	"	12	
southern, 1st sort,	"	11	12
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	29	30
do. country do.	"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,	"	26	28
do. dry hides,	"	24	25
New York red, light,	"	22	24
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	22	23
Boston dry hides,	"	21	23
Lime, best sort,	cask	80	85
Oil, Sperm, Spring and Summer,	gallon		
Winter,	"	1 15	1 20
Whale, refined,	"	50	60
Linseed, American,	"		
Neat's Foot,	"	95	1 00
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.		2 75	2 87
Pork, extra clear,	barrel	25 00	
clear,	"	24 00	
Mess,	"	17 00	19 00
Prime,	"	15 00	15 50
Seeds: Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 87	3 00
Red Top, southern,	"	90	1 00
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"		
Hemp,	"	2 62	3 00
Flax,	"	1 25	1 50
Red Clover, northern,	pound		
Southern Clover, none,	"		
Soap, American, No. 1,	"	6	7
" No. 2,	"	5	6
Tallow, tried,	"	12	13
Teazles, 1st sort,	pr M.	3 00	3 50
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	60	62
American, full blood, washed,	"	55	58
do. 3-4ths do.	"	50	53
do. 1-2 do.	"	45	50
do. 1-4 and common,	"	40	42
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	60	62
No. 1,	"	55	58
No. 2,	"	35	40
No. 3,	"	25	30

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Hams, northern,	pound	13	14
southern and western,	"	12	13
Pork, whole hogs,	"		
Poultry, per lb.,	"		
Butter, tub,	"	17	20
lump,	"	22	27
Eggs,	dozen	18	21
Potatoes,	bushel		
white, new,	"		75
Apples,			3 50
Cider,	"		
refined,	"		

MISCELLANEOUS.

RAILROAD ENGINE.

The following grand description of this new and mighty animal, that is now careering through our land, is extracted from the London Quarterly Review:

"There are, no doubt, many of our readers who have yet to receive those common-place impressions which are made upon the mind of the traveller, when for the first time he sees and hears the engine, as from a point in advance on the railway it retrogradingly approaches in order to be hooked on to a train composed, as on the London and Liverpool line, of eighteen or twenty huge cars, besides private carriages on runners, caravans full of horses, wagons of heavy goods, &c. &c. &c. The immense weight, upwards of eighty tons, to be transported at such a pace to such a distance, when compared with the slight, neat outline of the engine, the circumference of whose black funnel would not twice go round the neck of an antelope, and whose bright copper boiler would not twice equal the girth or barrel of a race-horse, induces the stranger to apprehend for a moment that the approaching power must prove totally inadequate; but the tearing and deafening noise with which this noble animal of man's creation advances to his work, satisfactorily demonstrates that it has itself no fear, but comes as a bridegroom out of his chamber, rejoicing like a giant to run his course.

If the character of this noble creature be considered for a moment with that of a horse, the comparison is curious. With sufficient coals and water in his manger, which, it must be observed, whenever he travels he takes with him, he can, if the aggregate of his day's work be considered, carry every day for years, at the rate of sixteen miles an hour, the weight of an army of 21,404 men, of 10 stone 10 lbs. each; whereas a good horse could not, at the same pace, and for the same distance, continue to carry, every day, more than one such man. For a distance of 80 miles he can carry the weight of 2,788 men at a rate (16 miles an hour) that neither the hare, the antelope, nor the race-horse could keep up with him.

No journey ever tires him; he is never heard to grumble but for want of work; the faster he goes the more ravenously he feeds; and for two years he can thus travel without medicine or surgery. It requires however, £2000 a year to support him. We might to these observations add a graver reflection; that, as by the invention of the telescope, man has extended his vision beyond that of the eagle, so, by the invention of the locomotive engine, he has now surpassed in speed every quadruped on the globe. We will, however, detain the engine no longer, but for a few moments will, with our readers, accompany the train with which it has now started.

The dashing at full steam speed into the small orifices of the tunnel—the midnight darkness that prevails there—the flashes of light that occasionally denote air shafts—the sudden return to the joyous sunshine of the world—the figures of the company's green servants, who, as the train whisks past them, stand all in the same attitude, motionless as statues, with white flags (the emblems of safety) in their extended hands—the occasional shrill, plaintive whistle or scream by which the engine, whenever necessary, scares the workmen from the rails—the meteor-like meeting of a return car, of which *in transitu* no more is seen than of the colored figures on one of the long stripes of painted glass, which, after slow exhibition before children, are by the showman rapidly drawn across the lens of his magic lantern; all these sensations unite in making the traveller practically sensible of the astonishing velocity with which not only he and his fellow passengers, each seated in his arm chair, but heavy goods, can now be transported."

The following communication comes from an esteemed correspondent, who has left us some of the oak galls referred to for distribution to those who may wish to test their virtues in the disease in question.—*Balt. Amer.*

REMEDY FOR DYSENTERY.—Grate a dry oak gall (or ball) fine and stew it for a few minutes in about the third of a tea-cup full of water; then add a tea-cup full of brandy and sufficient loaf sugar to make it very sweet. For a grown person take a table spoonful and repeat every hour or two according to the virulence of the disease. For a child a tea-spoonful is sufficient. Two or three doses will generally effect a cure.

I have known this remedy to succeed in the most violent case of dysentery.

I do not know whether the oak gall can be had of the apothecaries, but they are abundant in the country, and can be obtained gratuitously at almost every farm in the vicinity of Baltimore.

A few of them are left with the editors of the American to be given to such as desire to try them.

B.

YANKEE PERSEVERANCE.—An itinerant map seller went into a merchant's counting room near our office, the other day, and asked the occupant if he wished to purchase a map. "No," was the tart reply. "Will you look at one?" "No; I have more of my own now than I have time to examine." "Will you allow me to look at yours then?" "Yes, there they hang." "Well, while I am looking at your's I'll just unroll mine—that you know won't hurt any body." So the map vender displayed several of his best at full length upon the counter, and then quietly commenced looking at the merchant's, which hung against the wall. After making a few observations about some curious water falls, caves, &c., at places which he traced out upon the map before him, he managed to engage the merchant's attention, and at last referred to his own map, lying on the counter, for a more perfect illustration of his descriptions, and finally so much interested the auditor, that he bought three different maps, at six dollars each, of the pedler, and very politely asked him to call again when he put out a new edition!—*Bost. Post.*

ELOQUENCE.—A Mississippi paper gives the following pathetic commencement of a speech of one of their lawyers some years since, on the trial of a negro for the murder of another named Daniel, whom he buried on the hill-side, in such haste as to leave one of his feet uncovered, which led to the detection of the crime:

"Gentlemen of the Jury—Daniel is no more! no more shall Daniel pluck the snowy cotton ball, or plough the straight furrow—no more shall he enliven the negro quarter on Saturday nights with the recital of coon hunts, or sing "jaw bone" at the corn shuckling! No, gentlemen, he lies buried on the hill-side, with one foot out and one foot pointing to the arched vault of heaven!"

STRAWBERRIES.

Those who are desirous of cultivating this delicious fruit are respectfully informed that the subscriber has succeeded, after a number of years experimenting upon the *Strawberry*, not only in obtaining *new varieties*, but in ascertaining the best method of cultivation.

Specimens of the fruits grown in his *Garden* have been exhibited at the *Massachusetts Horticulturul Society Rooms* the *four past years*, and are also too well known in *Faneuil Hall Market* to need a particular notice here.

He has for sale at his *Garden* in *Brighton*, Mass., the following *eight varieties* of *Plants*. They are of superior stock and quality, all *warranted* to be truly named and free from the *mixtures* often found in those offered for sale promiscuously.

Those who are in want of Strawberry Plants, are respectfully invited, and they will find it interesting, to call at the *Garden* and see the *manner* of cultivation. The method of cultivation, and any information desired will be cheerfully given.

The subscriber would state that from many years *personal experience*, he is satisfied that plantations of these vines made the last of July or early in August, by careful and constant attention will produce nearly or quite as much fruit the season following as those plantations made in the Spring will produce the second year.

Warren's Seedling Methven.—A new and valuable kind. A free bearer, fruit very large and juicy; fruit measuring four and a half inches have been exhibited the present season.

Methven Castle.—Fruit extremely large, high flavored, and showy. Specimens of this kind have been exhibited at the Horticultural Rooms for two years past, measuring five and a half inches in circumference.

Bath Scarlet.—Fruit large, full bearer, and beautiful scarlet.

Early Virginia.—This is considered the earliest fruit—a free bearer, hardy, and very early; decidedly *a fine kind for market.*

Royal Scarlet —Fruit long oval shaped and juicy.

Hautbois.—Fruit smaller but very numerous.

English Wood.—Fruit well known.

Monthly.—Fruit is gathered from the vines from June to October, and in good quantity and fine quality.

☞ Orders left at the *Garden*, or directed to the subscriber, *Brighton, Mass*, or left at Messrs J. Breck & Co's Agricultural Warehouse, Boston, will be carefully and promptly attended to, and all PLANTS will be carefully packed and forwarded agreeably to directions.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Nonantum Vale, Brighton, Mass. July 17. is8w

Tulips, Ranunculuses, Anemones, Auriculas, Carnations, Picotees, Pinks and Geraniums

H. GROOM, of Walworth, near London, England, by appointment Florist to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, begs respectfully to call the attention of his friends and the admirers of flowers in America generally, to his extensive collection of the above flowers, which from his having been very successful in their cultivation this season he can offer at very moderate prices. He would particularly recommend to those persons about commencing the growth of the Tulip (which in England is becoming very fashionable) the unde rcollections in beds, as it is by far the cheapest mode of purchasing them.

Tulips arranged in beds with their names.

First Class.

A bed of 30 rows containing 210 bulbs including several of the newest varieties, - - - - - - - - £15
A bed of 45 rows, - - - - - - - - - £21
A bed of 60 rows, - - - - - - - 25 guineas

Second Class.

A bed of 30 rows including many fine sorts, - £10
A bed of 45 rows do - - - - £14
A bed of 60 rows do - - - £17 10s

Tulips not arranged.

100 Superfine sorts with their names from £7 7s to £13
Superfine mixtures, from - - - 7s 6d to 21s

Ranunculuses.

100 Superfine sorts, with their names from £3 3s to £5 5s
Superfine mixtures, from - - - 5s to 21s per 100

Anemones.

100 Superfine sorts with their names, - - £3 10s
Superfine double mixtures from 10s 6d to 21s per 100

Auriculas.

25 Superfine sorts with their names, - - £3 13s 6d

Catalogues with the prices of the other articles may be had on application.

Orders received by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1. eow.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

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